

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 5-6, 2026

"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education"



“If your brother or sister
sins, go and point out their
fault, just between the two
of you. If they listen to you,
you have won them over.

— MATTHEW 18:15 —

Music of Preparation
Welcome, Announcements, Greeting

Our Ministry: We are a people of God who are: ***“Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education.”***

Welcome! Welcome, friends! On this marvelous day, let us open our spirits to the loving presence of God that we may be spiritually fed and renewed by his grace.

Devotions & Publications are available in the Main Entryway. Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate.

..... **WORSHIP NOTES**

Communion: *The Lord’s Supper - A Reverent Sacrament

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 11:27,29, “Anyone who eats the bread or drinks the Lord’s cup in an unworthy way is guilty of sinning against the Lord’s body and blood. Anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the Lord’s body brings judgment on himself as he eats and drinks.” In view of the serious nature of the Lord’s Supper, Paul commands us to examine ourselves to see if we are partaking the supper for the purposes for which Christ instituted with our hearts properly prepared. We heartily invite Confirmed members of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod to receive of the Lord’s Supper. Other guests, we ask you to see the pastor or lay minister first so that you may receive the supper to your benefit rather than to your harm as the Apostle Paul warns.

NOTE: If you are allergic or cannot drink full strength wine, The two (2) cups in the center of each tray have water with a drop or two of wine.

Note About Attendance Cards...Remember that the only way we may know you are worshiping with us is by seeing your name on an attendance card. These cards may be completed as you enter for worship and will be collected after the offering. Use one card for each family that is gathered. ***Please list the name of each person in worship.*** (Parents, please take responsibility for signing in your children) There is a "Member" side as well as a "Guest" side. Please fill out the appropriate side and pass them to the center aisle during the gathering of the offerings. The cards are gathered after the offering has been collected.

To Our Visitors...Please sign our guest book found in the main entryway. Our church and school have a few nooks and crannies, so don’t be afraid to ask an usher where things are. Our pastor and any member here today would also be glad to meet and assist you. A guest information packet is available in the main (west) entryway.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR

(The music for the liturgy may be found on page 203 in the Hymnal)

Notes for Worship: As you prepare to receive the Lord's Supper this day, we invite you to turn to the prayer section of the Hymnal (page 305). In addition to prayers for before and after worship, there are prayers for use before and after receiving the Lord's Supper (page 308 as well as on the inside front cover of the hymnal). May these prayers be useful in your worship.

Before worship prayer

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. AMEN.

We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!

Opening Hymn: "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"

LSB, hymn #437

Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
And did my sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?

Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown,
And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide
And shut his glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died
For His own creatures' sin.

Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes to tears.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away:
'Tis all that I can do.

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

- P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b*
- P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C: **who made heaven and earth.** *Psalms 124:8*
- P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
- P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.
Let us humble ourselves before our Good and gracious God.
(Moment of silent reflection)
- P: Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. *Luke 18:13*
- C: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P: Let us pray . . . Almighty God,
C: **merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**
- P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.** *John 20:19-23*

KYRIE ~ Lord Have Mercy (Sung)

Mark 10:47

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis ~ Glory To God In The Highest (Sung)

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name we sing
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.

To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high

For You alone are holy, You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us prayO Almighty God, You sent forth Your Son to gather the lost and restore them to You by His blood shed once for all. Grant us the same love and mercy that we may seek out the sinner, recall them to You through repentance, and celebrate with joy their restoration to the Body of Christ, the church; through Him who died that we might live and who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

(Please be Seated)

THE READING OF THE WORD

First Lesson: Philemon 1, 10-21

(A Brother In Christ Restored)

Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker. . . . I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would

have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother - especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it - to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Second Lesson: Romans 13:1-10

(Love Does No Harm)

Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you. For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience. This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "Do not commit adultery,""Do not murder,""Do not steal,""Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Stand (as you are able)

Alleluia and Verse

John 20:31

C: (Sung) Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:1-20

(Restoring A Brother)

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" He called a little child and had him stand among them. And he said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. "And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me. But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. "Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to sin! Such things must come, but woe to the man through whom they come! If your hand or your foot causes you to sin cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell. "See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven. "What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? And if he finds it, I tell you the truth, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost. "If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as

you would a pagan or a tax collector. "I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. "Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be Seated)

Sermon Hymn: "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive" LSB, hymn #843, tune 524

"Forgive our sins as we forgive," You taught us, Lord, to pray;
But You alone can grant us grace To live the words we say.

How can Your pardon reach and bless The unforgiving heart
That broods on wrongs and will not let Old bitterness depart?

In blazing light Your cross reveals The truth we dimly knew:
What trivial debts are owed to us, How great our debt to You!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls And bid resentment cease;
Then, bound to all in bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.

Sermon: "Forgiven"

Matthew 18:15

Stand (as you are able)

P: Let us confess our faith, using the words of the Nicene Creed.

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at

the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

- P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs . . . Gracious God, where our brothers and sisters are straying, move us to seek them out and care for them. O Holy Spirit, give us the words to speak truth gently, to warn honestly, and to fervently invite them to return to a community where Word and Sacrament is faithfully proclaimed. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: Lord Jesus, fill us with Your love. May it overflow to our families, congregation, and communities. Help us care for the very young and the very old, for those less fortunate, downtrodden, neglected, or forgotten, so what we may all rejoice and grow together in Your forgiveness and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: O Lord, Wherever people are in harm's way; for those deployed in defense of our nation; for those securing our borders; for those safeguarding our neighborhoods; protect them good Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: O God, be with those who care for the sick and dying, the distressed and oppressed; guide and support them. Give them wisdom and patience as they provide healing and relief. We pray that you be with those hospitalized this past week (*Especially, . . .*). Also be with those who continue treatment and healing at home. We pray for them and all those that we name in our hearts . . . (*Silence*). Grant to them healing, help, and deliverance from their needs. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**

(Additional prayers of the congregation. Each petition concludes with. . .)

P: . . . Lord, In Your Mercy,

C: Hear Our Prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

(Please be Seated)

Tithes and Offerings/Attendance Cards

Stand *(as you are able)*

OFFERTORY - Let The Vineyards

LSB, Hymn # 955

C: (Sung) Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

HOLY COMMUNION

(In preparation to receive the Sacrament, please read the Communion notes on page 2)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

Colossians 3:1

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Psalms 136

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy (Sung)

Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

P: Let us pray the prayer our Lord taught us to pray as we come to the feast of His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins:
C: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**
Matthew 6:9-13

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: Take, eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me. In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: Drink of it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.
Mt 26:26-28, Mk 14:22-24, Lk 22:19-20, 1 Cor. 11:23-25

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

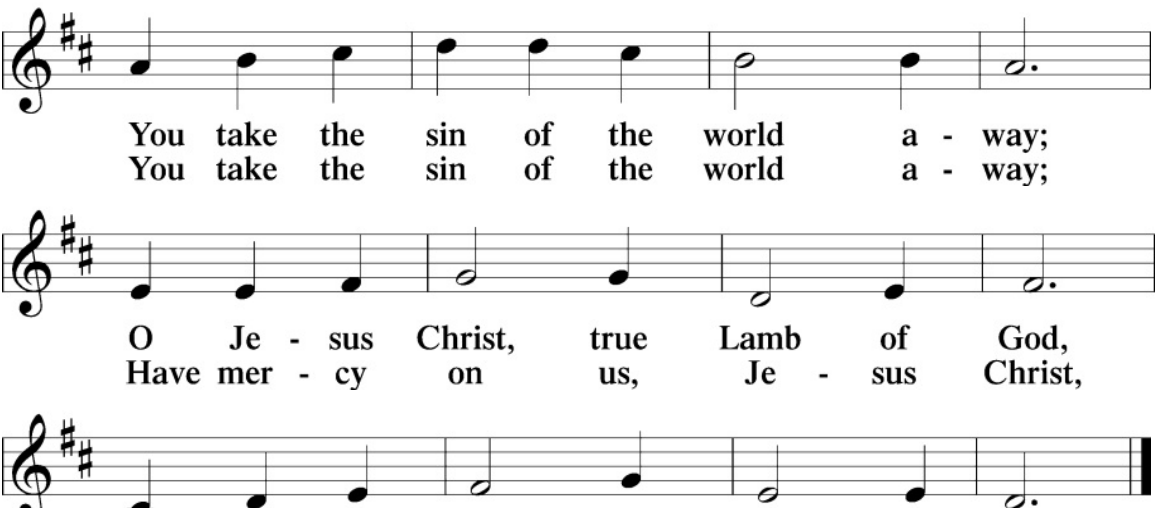
C: **And also with you.**

Agnus Dei

Divine Service 4, LSB pg 210



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Please be Seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB610 - Lord Jesus, Think on Me

Lord Jesus, think on me And purge away my sin;
From worldly passions set me free And make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me, By anxious thoughts oppressed;
Let me Your loving servant be And taste Your promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me Amid the battle's strife;
In all my pain and misery, O be my health and life!

Lord Jesus, think on me Nor let me go astray;
Through darkness and perplexity Point out Your chosen way.

Lord Jesus, think on me That, when this life is past,
I may the_ eternal brightness see And share Your joy at last.

LSB620 - Jesus Comes Today with Healing

Jesus comes today with healing,
Knocking at my door, appealing,
Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace.
He Himself makes preparation,
And I hear His invitation:
"Come and taste the blessed feast."

Christ Himself, the priest presiding,
Yet in bread and wine abiding
In this holy sacrament,
Gives the bread of life, once broken,
And the cup, the precious token
Of His sacred covenant.

Under bread and wine, though lowly,
I receive the Savior holy,
Blood and body, giv'n for me,
Very Lamb of God from heaven,
Who to bitter death was given,
Hung upon the cursed tree.

God descends with heav'nly power,
Gives Himself to me this hour
In this ordinary sign.
On my tongue His pledge receiving,
I accept His grace, believing
That I taste His love divine.

Let me praise God's boundless favor,
Whose own feast of love I savor,
Bidden by His gracious call.
Wedding garments He provides me,
With a robe of white He hides me,
Fits me for the royal hall.

Now have I found consolation,
Comfort in my tribulation,
Balm to heal the troubled soul.
God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
Cleanses me from sin and error,
Makes my wounded spirit whole.

LSB629 - What Is This Bread

What is this bread?
Christ's body risen from the dead:
This bread we break, This life we take,
Was crushed to pay for our release.
O taste and see—the Lord is peace.

What is this wine?
The blood of Jesus shed for mine;
The cup of grace Brings His embrace
Of life and love until I sing!
O taste and see—the Lord is King.

So who am I,
That I should live and He should die
Under the rod? My God, my God,
Why have You not forsaken me?
O taste and see—the Lord is free.

Yet is God here?
Oh, yes! By Word and promise clear,
In mouth and soul He makes us whole—
Christ, truly present in this meal.
O taste and see—the Lord is real.

Is this for me?
 I am forgiven and set free!
 I do believe That I receive
 His very body and His blood.
 O taste and see—the Lord is good.

Stand (as you are able)

Nunc Dimittis

Divine Service 4, LSB pg 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. . . . Almighty and most merciful God, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear His call and to follow Him by faith that we may feast with Him forever in His kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

BLESSING

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103:1

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Numbers 6:24-26

Closing Hymn: "Love in Christ Is Strong and Living"

LSB, hymn #706

Love in Christ is strong and living,
 Binding faithful hearts in one;
 Love in Christ is true and giving.
 May His will in us be done.

Love is patient and forbearing,
 Clothed in Christ's humility,
 Gentle, selfless, kind, and caring,
 Reaching out in charity.

Love in Christ abides forever,
Fainting not when ills attend;
Love, forgiving and forgiven,
Shall endure until life's end.

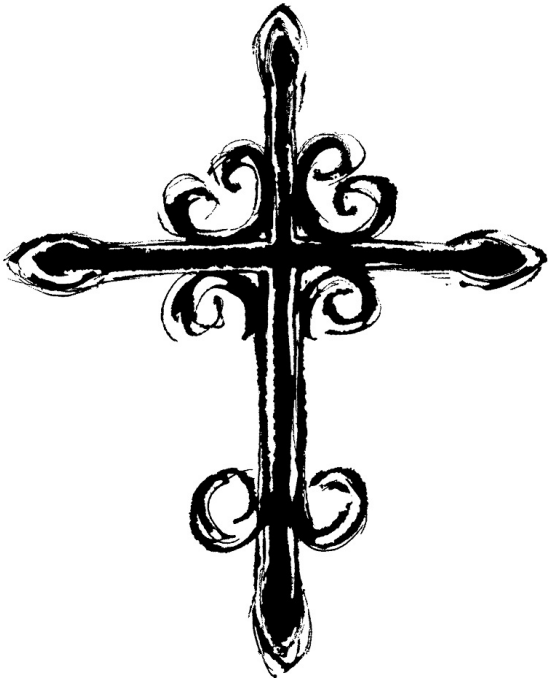
See You In Worship Next Week!

After worship prayer

Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

Please join us for coffee and donut holes in the cafeteria after Sunday services.

Altar Flowers Altar flowers this weekend are given to the glory of God in loving memory of our parents, Ken & Wilma Hartke and Marshall & Elizabeth Bryant, by Hal & Jan Bryant; also in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Les Jennings.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Roger A. Drinnon Associate Pastor
Mr. Brian Porter Principal

Rev. David Baker Missionary to Mongolia
Rev. Ross Engel Adopt-A-Chaplain
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